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Date: December 7, 2001

Docket No.: 1131-0461P

BOX PATENT APPLICATION

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, DC 20231

Preliminary Amendment

Sir:

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Transmitted herewith for filing under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(b), is a Continuation application of PCT International Application No. PCT/JP00/03670 filed on June 6, 2000.

Inventor(s): MASHINO, Shigemi and AIZAWA, Toshio

For: SHREDDED TOBACCO SUPPLY **APPARATUS** OF CIGARETTE MANUFACTURING MACHINE

Enclosed are:

$\boxtimes$	A specification consisting of twenty (20) pages						
$\boxtimes$	Three (3) sheet(s) of formal drawings						
$\boxtimes$	An assignment of the invention						
$\boxtimes$	Certified copy of Priority Document(s)						
$\boxtimes$	Executed Declaration   Original   Photocopy						
	Applicant claims small entity status under 37 C.F.R. § 1.27.						
$\boxtimes$	Information Disclosure Statement, PTO-1449 with reference(s)						

- Priority of PCT International Application No. PCT/JP00/03670 filed on June 6, 2000 is claimed under 35 U.S.C. § 120.
- Amend the specification by inserting before the first line thereof the following:

--This application is a Continuation of copending PCT International Application No. PCT/JP00/03670 filed on June 6, 2000, which was not published in English and which designated the United States, and on which priority is claimed under 35 U.S.C. § 120, the entire contents of which are hereby incorporated by reference.--

- Priority of Application No. 11-161016 filed in JAPAN on June 8, 1999 is claimed under U.S.C. § 119.
- Other: International Search Report

The filing fee has been calculated as shown below:

			LARGE ENTITY	SMALL ENTITY	
	BASIC FEE		\$740.00	\$370.00	
	NUMBER FILED	NUMBER EXTRA	RATE FEE	RATE FEE	
TOTAL CLAIMS	6- 20 =	0	X 18 = \$0.00	x 9 = \$	
INDEPENDENT CLAIMS	1- 3 =	0	x 84 = \$0.00	x 42 = \$	
	LE DEPENDEN' PRESENTED	Т	+ \$280.00	+ \$140.00	
		TOTAL	740.00		

- A check in the amount of \$780.00 to cover the filing fee and recording fee (if applicable) is enclosed.
- Please charge Deposit Account No. 02-2448 in the amount of \$0.00. A triplicate copy of this transmittal form is enclosed.

(Rev. 11/15/01)

 $oxed{oxed}$  Please send correspondence to:

BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP or Customer No. 2292 P.O. Box 747

Falls Church, VA 22040-0747 Telephone: (703) 205-8000

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP

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KM/rem 1131-0461P

Attachments

PATENT	APPLICATION	<b>SERIAL</b>	NO.	

## U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE FEE RECORD SHEET

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